



The Polished Slab

Southern Nevada Gem & Mineral Society



May 2011

A NEWSLETTER FOR ROCKHOUNDS SINCE 1940

Volume 71 Issue 5

Upcoming Events

May 14 - Mountain Pass
Field Trip

May 22 - Buffington
Pockets Field Trip

Jun 2 - Board Meeting

Jun 6 - General Meeting

Wire Wrapping - each
Monday except General
Meeting night, 3 PM or 6
PM at the Shop

Silversmithing - each
Tuesday, 5 PM at the Shop

Beading - Thursday, May
12, and 26 at 6 PM at the
Shop.

See page 8 for more class
information

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President's Message

from Sue Moore

May is off to a good start with a great program at our general meeting. Our members donated many rock and mineral specimens to our presenters, Rick Bowersox & Steve Deveny. Rick teaches geology to students at Cashman Middle School. Their talk was on the subject of cave surveying.

Faceting Class has started and is proving a great success. The cost to members is 5 classes at \$20.00 per class. At the end of these classes, you will be able to follow a faceting pattern and understand how to operate the faceting machinery. After 2 classes, we have completed the pavilion facets of the 1st gem being cut in the class and will start on gem #2 next week. I am very surprised and pleased that my stone is recognizable and not a "do over".

Frank Auerswald has been on vacation and will return on the 11th of May. Silversmithing has been conducted by Tony Fecho in his absence.

Field trips this month will be on Saturday the 14th and Sunday the 22nd. The trip on the 14th will be for specimens and cuttings close to Mountain Pass. The meeting place will be the gas station on the West side of I-15 at Jean at 8:00am. The roads are all grades dirt roads, so 4 wheel is not required. The trip on the 22nd will be to the Muddy's and Buffington Pockets. The meeting place will be the Paiute Casino parking lot at the Valley of Fire exit of I-15 north, at 8:00am. 4 wheel, high clearance will be required for this trip. Doris Currington will be coming along on these two trips and we are delighted to see her smiling face with us in the field again.

I hope everyone is making plans for our June trip to Ely. We will be camping at Cave Lake, however, those wishing to stay in a hotel or motel can make arrangements in Ely. The dates are June 10th, 11th 12th & go home on the 13th. Cave Lake is operated by the State of Nevada and fishing is permitted, with license, of course.

Board Meeting Summary - April 28, 2011

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm, Thursday, April 28, by Sue Moore.

Old Business

The meeting minutes from the March 31st Board meeting were read and approved as read

The Treasurer's report will be available at the General meeting

Sue is working on the County Business License

Field Trips to be discussed at the General meeting

Picnic at Ore Car Claim

Possible trip to Buffington Pockets

Board Meeting Summary - Continued

SNGMS By-Laws – Clare to reconvene the committee to draft amendments

New Business

A code of conduct will be added to standing rules for the Society

Faceting Class: nine people attended and the class has taken in enough to offset the cost of renovation of the faceting machines.

Will discuss the future availability for facet machines to club members

For members who have taken the class and know how to use the machines

Suggested cost per hour to use and personal supplies required

Lockers – the shop now has lockers that can be rented.

Cost per month to be discussed at General meeting

Two Sizes, suggested cost of \$5 and \$10 per month, depending on size

Recommendations on what can and cannot be stored, discussion tabled until researched

Shop Report – the shop is running low on cutting oil, Tom Skeary to order more

Silversmithing Class – Copper is available for purchase if members would like to experiment with a different medium than Silver

Garage Sale – Scheduled for April 30th

Non-profit status – Questions were asked regarding the rules for reimbursement and advertising, Board to research

A member was recognized to discuss a concern, the issue was thoroughly discussed and resolved

The meeting was adjourned at 7:23

General Meeting Summary - May 2, 2011

Meeting was called to order at 6:10 P. M. and the pledge of allegiance was recited.

Minutes of the general meeting held on 4 April 2011 were read and approved with one correction. The membership was 345 not 385 as stated.

Treasurer's report was given by Pat Skeary. A Profit was noted this month. Some discussion about the investments followed.

Committees:

Membership today was 365.

Marybeth was out of town for a family emergency.

Field trips: The trip to Taylor Mountain had 33 participants; this was a very enjoyable trip with good weather and several rewarding and interesting activities. Although not much gold was found, the stamp mill and table were demonstrated. The tour through the "Cave Inn" was impressive.

Wes Bryant Reported Burro Creek trip had nine attendees. Next time more members should come to this event. One person brought a house pet, a cat. The cat was lost and reported taken by a coyote. The rain curtailed most of the rock hounding.

The next planned trip will be to Sima Road on Saturday 14 May 2011, and then a trip to Buffington Pockets will be on Sunday, 22 May 2011.

Sunshine: Lynn Manthey was in the hospital but is out and back at home.

General Meeting Summary - Continued

Doris is out of recovery and is here at the meeting.

Federation Report was given by Sheri Johnson. The California Federation of Mineralogical Societies (CFMS) will have their 75th birthday this year. The Meeting will be in Anderson Ca. This a town about two and one half hours north of Sacramento. Sheri also stated, the park known as Florida Mountain State Park, is now closed to rock hounding. Jack Toogood gave side note about our club history which dates back 80 years, first known as The Prospectors Club as early as 1932.

Web Master: Jack Toogood reports the new member information page is now working.

Programs: Tonight the program will be given by Steve Deveny and Rick Bowersox from the Southern Nevada Grotto of the National Speleological Society of Paleoclimatology. They do extensive conservation and measurements of caves in Nevada.

KARST = An area of irregular limestone in which erosion has produced fissures, sinkholes, underground streams, and caverns.

Library: Dan Fesler and Kevin Ware are working on our library, they are looking for a book storage shelf that is not too deep and may act as a display for books in the shop, anyone having a book shelf that they wish to donate please contact, (Boston8@cox.net).

The birthstone for May is Emerald. Persons with May birthdays were acknowledged, and new members were noted.

Unfinished Business:

The Garage Sale sold \$431.00. This program was successful enough to try it again. Peggy Sue suggested we repeat the garage sale in Oct .2011.

Bob Skulsky has started the faceting cases .The next round will be starting soon. We are accepting sign up for the next class now.

Tony Fetcho will be the contact for silver smith classes. Sheila Tremmel is the contact for the wire wrapping class. See Pat Skeary, Simi Bryant, or Sue Dobson for the beading classes. Tom Skeary will do clock making classes. Shop supervisors will show how to use machinery and cab classes. Chuck will give a saw maintenance class at 10:00 am this Saturday. Lost wax classes are temporarily on hold.

Lockers: We now have lockers for personal property and class supplies, the lockers will rent for \$5.00 a month. Bring your own lock.

The club is collecting a list of items to buy from Fire mountain Gems, If you have items to buy please add them to the bulk order, they give a price break for larger orders.

Do not forget to buy tickets for the Justin Timberlake Golf Open. The Shriners tickets are \$20.00 and the club gets 50% of sales.

Sharon Rogow presented a program from ZZYZX. Six days at ZZYZX with concentrated classes are \$350.00. There is a link through the federation website, or contact Sharon Rogow.

The Meeting was adjourned at 7:10 followed by the presentation and drawings.

Geologists have a saying - rocks remember.

Neil Armstrong



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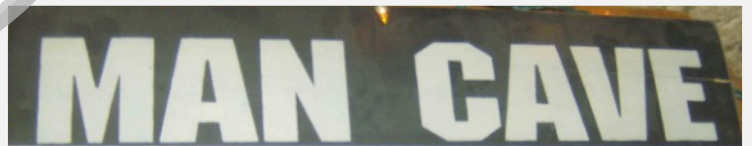




April 23rd

Photos courtesy of: Dan and Theresa Brooks,
Glenn Beye, and Vic Holmes





Bulletin Board

Wanted: Silver Smithing tools. Looking to buy tools you may have but no longer use. We are getting into silversmithing and are looking for the necessary tools and equipment. Contact Rick or Joanna Koss at 253-203-8673

Wanted: Coordinator for Justin Timberlake Golf Tournament sales. Contact Peggy Sue Moore at 702-434-6072 or email her at: backyardgems@yahoo.com

To place an advertisement on the bulletin board contact the editor at 702-631-5291 or email sngms_editor@yahoo.com

Desert Outfitters

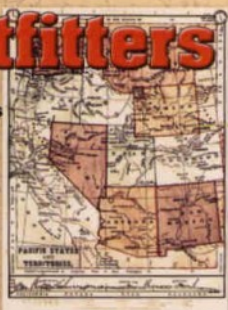
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Discounts Available

All the establishments featured in this section offer discounts to SNGMS members. Be sure to show your membership card when making a purchase, and say that the Southern Nevada Gem & Mineral Society sent you!

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Open 7 Days 10AM-6PM

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SNGMS 2011 Meetings

Mar 03 Board	July 28 Board
07 General	Aug 01 General
31 Board	Sep 08 Board
Apr 04 General	12 General
28 Board	29 Board
May 02 General	Oct 03 General
June 02 Board	Nov 03 Board
06 General	07 General
July 07 Board	Dec Open
July 11 General	

All Meetings at 3111 S. Valley View Blvd. Bldg. E. Board Meetings at Shop, Suite 125, General Meetings at Suite 122.

SNGMS General Meeting

1st Monday of every month
(2nd Monday if holiday falls on the first Monday)

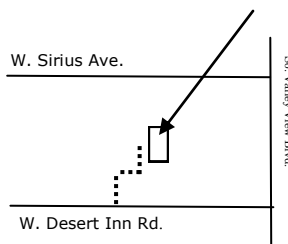
Non-members welcome!

3111 S. Valley View Blvd, E-122
Las Vegas, NV

Show & Sell	5-6 PM
Meeting	6-8 PM

3111 So. Valley View Blvd, Building E

**Meeting Location
Suite 122
Shop Suite 125**

**Finding the Shop and General Meeting Location**

Proceeding west on Desert Inn Road, take the first right past So. Valley View Blvd. into the industrial park area. Drive past the building on your right, then jog right, then left and you will be in front of Building E.

Please, **under no circumstances**, park in front of Unit 124 (the unit next to the Shop). The owner of the unit comes in at odd hours and needs access to his parking spaces. There is ample parking across from the Shop that is not in front of any unit.

Raffle Donations Needed

Donations for the Raffle Table are always needed. As well as rocks, fossils, slabs, jewelry, and other rock club related items, Tom Skeary, the Raffle Table Chairman, welcomes white elephant type items in excellent condition. Help keep the Raffle Table exciting and profitable. You can bring your donations into the SNGMS Shop, where a box has been set aside to receive them, or contact Tom at 702-630-6796 to make other arrangements or for more information.

Sunshine Report *from Dottie Fusch*

Please if you hear of any SNGMS member in need of a bit of sunshine due to accident, illness, death in the family or other need, call me—Dottie Fusch at 648-5886 (recorder on). Cards will be sent to let the member know that we care and wish them well.

Lynn Manthey and Sandy Cunningham are both recovering at home after hospitalizations.

We were happy to see Doris Currington at the meeting after her recent medical problems.



Classes, Classes, Classes!

Wire wrapping, led by Sue Moore, meets on Mondays (except for the General Meeting night) at 3 PM and again at 6 PM. This month the projects will be: May 9 - Paisley Earrings or Pendant, May 16 - Dragonfly Pin, and May 23 - Wire Wrapped Ladder Shaped Cab. Sign up with Sue Moore at 702-434-6072 to get on the email list to receive wire wrapping class information.

The beading class completed the netting enclosed cabochon necklace project from April. This month the class is working on individual projects. Most of the students are planning to make beaded ornament covers, learning to do charted peyote stitch. The May meetings are the 12th and 26th at 6 P.M. Contact Pat Skeary at 702-459-2649 to sign up for beading or for more information.

Silversmithing meets every Tuesday at 5 PM. The class does not do group projects, but help is available to get you through your first basic project and then to help you, as needed, as you complete your own individual projects. The class is experimenting with using copper as well as silver to create jewelry. Contact Frank Auerswald at 702-743-4840 for additional information.

The faceting class has started, and has met two times. They are meeting on Tuesdays for this session. The next class is being formed, and the time and day will depend on the need of the students. Sign up sheets are available at the SNGMS Shop, or at the meeting. The donation for the faceting class is \$20.00 per session, with an expected length of at least five sessions.

A sign up sheet is also available for Clock Making with Tom Skeary. An example of one of his clocks is hanging on the wall in the Shop. Stop in, take a look, and sign up for the class.

A class in rock tumbling is going to be held on a Wednesday evening. If you are interested be sure you are on the sign up sheet so you will be notified. Again, the sheet is available in the Shop.

Frank Auerswald has agreed to teach a channeling (inlay) class if there is enough interest. Channeling involves making frames for stones and then cutting the stones to insert in the frames. This is another wonderful opportunity to learn a new technique. He expects the class to be 4-5 weeks and start in June. All materials will be provided for donation of \$75.00. A sign up sheet is available at the Shop.

Examples of the wire wrapping and beading projects are displayed in the SNGMS Shop, so come down and take a look. Wire wrapping, beading, and silversmithing classes have a very modest donation of \$5.00 per session, that goes to the club. Other class donations may vary, depending on what is included in the class and the expected wear to the shop equipment. All classes are held in the SNGMS Shop.



The Faceting Class at work

Projects from the first three months of Beading



Concentrating on their beading!

Shop Report

SNGMS Workshop Schedule

Sunday	Closed
Monday	
Tuesday	
Wednesday	12 noon-9 PM
Thursday*	12 noon-9 PM
Friday	12 noon-9 PM
Saturday	10 AM -9 PM

*Closed after 6 PM on the Thursday of the Board Meeting.

Supervisors will close the shop if no one comes in after two hours. The next shift supervisor will then re-open the shop.

Fees

Trim Saw \$3.00 per hour, all other equipment is \$5.00 per hour, after the first hour charges are pro-rated in 15 minute

Shop Talk

from Chuck Huebler and Tom Skeary

Supervisors will be glad to help anyone who is unfamiliar with the equipment to learn, and to get certified.

For safety, users of the shop equipment are requested to wear closed shoes. They also need to wear eye protection and a mask and/or hearing protection, depending on their activity. Goggles, hearing protection, and masks are available at the shop. Wearing old clothes is recommended

Be mindful of what you are doing in the shop, as equipment (and You) can be damaged. If you don't know, or aren't sure of the equipment operation, ask for assistance. The supervisors are there to help you.

Small lockers are now available in the shop for a \$5.00 a month rental fee.

If none of the listed times are convenient for you, contact Tom at 702-630-6796 or Chuck at 702-686-4186 and they will try to accommodate your schedule if possible.



Photo courtesy of Caitly Stackhouse



Photos courtesy of John Stackhouse

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Thanks!

Many thanks to Shannon Funk who has created and donated the signage for the SNGMS Lapidary Shop, including the Shop sign and the Garage sale signs. He did an excellent job, and we appreciate it! His business is Sign Express at 3230 Polaris Ave. #6 in Las Vegas, phone 702-792-2888, and email signxpress@mac.com.



Birthstone:
Pearl, Moonstone,
Alexandrite

Flower: Rose

Happy June Birthday

If you have a June birthday please bring something for the refreshment table at the June meeting.

Frank Auerswald, Sr., Frank A. Calhoun, Michael Carlson, Carolyn Chervenak, Melissa Eliason, Jodie Erikson, Dave Finch, Anthony Gallo, Melda Golubic, Tex Goodloe, Ron Gramm, Herman Herring, Bruce Hughes, Sheri Johnson, Virginia Kennedy, Joseph Kerr, Michael Kirk, William (Bill) Lemmon, Margaret Mahler, Sanford McDonald, Donald McKenzie, Sigrid Monda, Wayne Muth, Mary Beth Paladino, Gail Seidner, Jim Switalla, Mary Switalla, Scott Thomas, Scooter Weber, Kevin Wilson, Vincent Zebrowski, and Marti Zeigler

Welcome New Members



A hearty welcome to members who joined or rejoined SNGMS during late April and May. We look forward to getting to know you better!

Marie-Antoinette Arient, Eric Bowker, Dan Brooks, Tony D'Alessio, Scott Dyer, Anthony Earle, Patricia Grillett, Robert Hall, Jeanne Harris-Johnson, Bob Johnson, Fred Josephs, Ben Lucero, Victoria Lucero, Cheryl Ortiz, Sal Ortiz, and Barbara Plummer

June Birthstones

Pearls are, of course, hard objects created inside a living mollusk. They are composed of calcium carbonate, just like the mollusk shell.

Moonstone is feldspar with a pearly and opalescent luster. It's sheen is caused by light reflecting internally in the moonstone from layer inclusion of different feldspars.

Alexandrite is a form of chrysoberyl that changes color in different lighting conditions. One form is green in daylight and red under incandescent lights. Another form is yellowish or pink in daylight and red under incandescent lights. Chrysoberyl is an aluminate of beryllium

Jerry Hesch, MHS, PT
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backyardgems@yahoo.com

Vice-President.....Jack Toogood.....702-642-4788
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Secretary.....Glenn Beya *sngms_sec@yahoo.com*

Treasurer.....Pat Skeary.....702-459-2649
sngms_treasurer@yahoo.com

Parliamentarian.....Frank Auerswald

Three Year Board...Tom Skeary

Two Year Board.....Clare Breneman

One Year Board.....Sheri Johnson
 Bill Moore

Committee Chairmen

Bulletin.....Lorrilee Stackhouse.....702-631-5291
sngms_editor@yahoo.com

Education.....Mary Beth Paladino & Doris Currington

Federation.....Doris Currington

Alt. Federation.....Sheri Johnson
sngms_federation@yahoo.com

Field Trip.....Board of Directors
sngms_fielddtrip@yahoo.com

Financial Manager..George Messenger

General ShopChuck Huebler.....702-686-4186

Foremen Tom Skeary.....702-630-6796

Historian.....Terry Beck

Hospitality.....Bob and Sue Lofaro

Inventory.....Ronald Fetcho

Membership.....John Stackhouse & Mary Brandt
sngmsmembership@yahoo.com

Program.....Board of Directors

Raffle.....Tom Skeary

50-50 Raffle.....Bill Moore

Refreshments.....Sue Dobson

Rock Stars.....Mary Beth Paladino.....702-255-1647

Rock Hounds *sngms_rockstars@yahoo.com*

Sargeant at Arms....Craig Tremmel

Show Chairperson...Board of Directors to manage shows;
 Sandy Cunningham is show information compiler

Committee Chairmen continued

Sunshine.....Dottie Fusch.....702-648-5886

Webmaster.....Jack Toogood.....702-642-4788
sngms_webmaster@yahoo.com

Open Committee Chair Positions: Librarian,
 Publicity

Contact any Board member to volunteer for a position, or a Committee Chairman to offer to help on their committee.

Vendor Opportunities

GLDA Trade Show: To be held at the Mirage on May 30 - June 2. The website is http://www.glda.com/lasvegas_may.htm. See the website for more information.

Upcoming Shows

May 13-15, Anderson, CA - 75th Anniversary CFMS Show & Convention, Shasta District Fairgrounds, Briggs Street (8 miles south of Redding) Exit 677 off Interstate 5 to Highway 273; 2.5 miles to Fairgrounds, Hours: Fri, Sat 9-5, Sun 10-4

May 21-22 - Yucaipa, CA - Yucaipa Valley Gem & Mineral Society, Yucaipa Community Center, 34900 Oak Glen Road, Hours: Sat. 9-5, Sun. 10-4

June 3-5 - Woodland Hills, CA - Rockatomics Gem and Mineral Society, Pierce College, 20800 Victory Blvd, Hours: 9-5 daily

June 4-5 - Glendora, CA - Glendora Gems, Goddard Middle School, 859 East Sierra Madre, Hours: Sat. 10-5; Sun. 10-4

June 4-5, La Habra, CA - North Orange County Gem and Mineral Society, La Habra Community Center, 101 W. La Habra Blvd., Hours: 10-5 daily

These are only a sampling of shows that are fairly close to the Las Vegas area. There are rock clubs throughout the United States and the computer is your friend in finding information about clubs and shows. Just search for the area you are interested in and rock club and you should find plenty to keep you busy, wherever you are going.

Some links that you may find helpful are:
 California Federation - <http://www.cfmsinc.org/>,
 Rocky Mountain Federation - http://www.rmfm.org/rock_shows_by_date.htm,
 and the Rock & Gem website - <http://rockngem.com/showdates/>

Southern Nevada Gem & Mineral Society

3111 S. Valley View Blvd, E-125

Las Vegas, NV 89102

Return Service Requested



If you forgot to pay your dues on time you can still maintain uninterrupted membership by paying a \$5 reinstatement fee. Keep your membership uninterrupted. Contact the membership chairman, or pay at the SNGMS Shop.

The Southern Nevada Gem and Mineral Society is a non-profit corporation, organized to educate ourselves and the community in the science and arts related to rocks, minerals, gems, fossils, and nature in general. Fostering an understanding and appreciation of the physical world, we can use it and protect it for future generations.

Club Mascot: Rock Wren Club Gemstone: Turquoise Club Logo: Rocks-R-Us Membership is open to anyone with an interest in: Rocks, Gems, Geology, Fossils, Lapidary Arts or Silversmithing Annual Dues: Individual - \$20; Family - \$30 Meetings are held the first Monday of the month at 3111 So. Valley View Blvd, E-122. No meeting is held in December. Instead we have our annual awards dinner. Visitors are always welcome and bring a friend or two.	Polished Slab Advertising Rates		
	Ad Size	Six Months	Yearly
	Business Card	\$18	\$30
	Quarter Page	\$48	\$90
	Half Page	\$90	\$170
	Full Page	\$150	\$275
SNGMS Web Page Ads and Links to your Web Page are available for additional fees. First month is free to club members. Ads must be paid in full prior to publication. Make checks payable to Southern Nevada Gem & Mineral Society. Mail to : SNGMS/Attn: Editor, 3111 S. Valley View Blvd, E-125 Las Vegas, NV 89102			